THE
DISSEMINATOR
Nova Scotia Provincial Library
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To Chief Librarians:
This electronic information sheet is being distributed to all Regional Librarians and members of the Automation Working Group.

Please distribute this to staff and boards. Thanks.

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T H E D I S S E M I N A T O R 1.7
March 18, 1994

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EXTRA! EXTRA!

We would like to expand our reading audience and will soon be sending The Disseminator to all staff in the Regions who have an e-mail account. Please advise Sue Dirani if you do NOT wish to be on the mailing list.

INFORMATION RIGHTS WEEK

Andrea John is coordinating activities for Information Rights Week from Provincial Library. Chief Librarians will receive a memo today to solicit their cooperation in promoting the week, which is April 11-17 this year. APLA, NSLA and HLA are also planning events or activities for Information Rights Week.

FUNDING FORMULA REPORT

Marion Pape, Betsy Armstrong and Andrea John have been crossing the province over the past 3 weeks, to consult with Library Boards on the Funding Formula Report. This feedback will go to the Minister of Education. Discussion has been very lively and it is evident that Library Boards and Councils are taking this process very seriously.

NOVA SCOTIA FREENETS

2007-05058/

A group of interested individuals in Halifax and Sydney held a teleconference on Wednesday, March 16 to discuss cooperating in the development of freenets in Nova Scotia. The two active freenets (Chebucto Freenet and Cape Breton Freenet) plan to expand their scope by inviting participation from all regions of the province. A meeting is being planned for May while further discussion will take place at the Automation Working Group meeting on March 25 at NSPL.

INFORMATION POLICY AND SERVICES: PANEL AND MEETING

On March 25 the Dalhousie University School of Library and Information Studies is hosting a panel featuring Gwynneth Evans, Director, External Relations, National Library of Canada and Michael Nelson, Group Chief, Information and Security Policy, Treasury Board Secretariat on "Information Policy and Information Services in Canada in the 1990's: Challenges for Development and Delivery". The time and place are 10:45 AM at the MacMechan Auditorium, Killam Library, Dalhousie University. SLIS and the Provincial Library have invited some of the key people in government, freenets, the university, and information technology organizations to discuss information policy from a Nova Scotia perspective. This will take place following the panel.

YOU'RE UNDER THE DOME

The new version of the McAfee Virus Protection software has been downloaded from the bulletin board, and will be distributed to the regions as soon as it is unzipped and copied. For those of you who have been receiving messages to update the software, rest assured that you won't have to read them much longer!

NEW VIRUSES!

Speaking of viruses, here are a few that we've heard about recently:
POLITICALLY CORRECT VIRUS: Never calls itself a "virus", but instead refers to itself as an "electronic microorganism."
FREUDIAN VIRUS: Your computer becomes obsessed with marrying its own motherboard.
PBS VIRUS: Your programs stop every few minutes to ask for money.
STAR TREK VIRUS: Invades your system in places where no virus has gone before.
ELVIS VIRUS: Your computer gets fat, slow and lazy, then self destructs; only to resurface at shopping malls and service stations across rural America.

DANGLING CUTTERS ALERT!

When assigning the cutter number to a book during cataloguing, we add the first three letters of the author's name (or title in the case of a title main

entry) to the Dewey number. When the author's name begins with Mac, Van, or Von, the next letter of the name is added in order to separate MacDonalds from MacKenzies, etc. If there is a space between the second and third letters of the name (as in Van den Berg), the space is retained and Van den Berg would be cuttered as "Van d". On the spine labels and book cards produced by multiLIS, this space is causing what comes afterward to move down to the next line so that Van den Berg now looks like this:

FIC
Van
d

We cannot eliminate the space, as doing so would cause filing problems. We wanted to advise you of the situation so that you can watch for it when shelving. We have also discovered that apostrophes in a cutter number cause the same problem. In this case, we have decided to omit the apostrophe so that O'Brien would be cuttered as "Obr" instead of "O'br". This will not affect filing procedures.

ON THE BORED WALK

The database walk has been completed, and it was very uneventful! ISM reports that it went off without a hitch, with the exception of 8 records which we were able to correct. Work on the gap tape began on Monday, and work commenced on the supplemental bibliographic tape on Tuesday. We are still looking at early to mid-April as the loading date for the gap tape.

RECIPE FOR A STRATEGIC PLANNING REPORT

Take one new home-owner away from moving, one person who is going to become a grandmother away from the waiting room, and three other busy people from various parts of the province. Add three feet (or five pounds, depending on whether you're an archivist or not) of raw ingredients in the form of file folders full of documents from countless meetings, two workshops, a conference and a multi-stakeholder assembly. Toss the documents liberally, stir up inspiring ideas and shake the writers gently. Season with a few old chesnuts and sacred cows. Fold ingredients into a 486 with a fried B drive and blend equitably. Allow mixture to sit for two weeks, then bake in photocopier. Makes forty fulfilling copies which will be food for thought for a Planning Team on approximately March 25th.

COMING TO A HEADQUARTERS NEAR YOU!

During the weeks of April 11-15, 18-22, and 25-29 NSPL staff will be visiting the Regional Libraries' headquarters, to provide training on the new ILL system using Eudora and WordPerfect, and also to provide some multiLIS training such as searching and adding item records. Copies of WordPerfect 6.0 are currently being downloaded from the new provincial

government bulletin board service and will be distributed to each region within the next week or two. The WordPerfect macros will be installed during the training visits and full documentation for the ILL system will also be available at this time.

INTERNET Q & A

Some of you have expressed interest in a column devoted to answering queries about the Internet. Send your questions on gophering, telnetting, e-mail, and all the other jargon that goes along with the Net by e-mail to "sdirani". I will forward your question to someone who can help and then print the response (provided we can find one!) in the next possible issue of the Disseminator. Here is the first one!

Question:

How can I access the Electronic Newsstand that I've heard about?
D. Lebel, DRL

Answer:

The Electronic Newsstand contains the Tables of Contents for several periodicals such as The New Yorker and The New Republic. The quickest way to access it is to TELNET to: gopher.internet.com, and enter "enews" when prompted for a username.
Sue Dirani, NSPL

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That's it for this issue. Stay tuned . . . .

If you have any questions or comments about the activities mentioned, please contact the people involved.

We encourage readers to comment on items found in THE DISSEMINATOR and/or make suggestions about content. These comments should be directed to Sue Dirani or Donna Bourne-Tyson.

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